File No.: 11016-27us GH/ik

Montreal, Canada July 17, 2003

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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ANDRÉ DESJARDINS ET AL

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Examiner:

Group Art Unit:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 U.S.A.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant hereby requests that the prior art references listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 be considered by the Examiner in connection with his examination of the above-identified application, and be made of record in the application file. A copy of each of the references is attached.

DISCUSSION

The references are discussed in the specification.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

Should the Examiner have any questions after reviewing this Information Disclosure Statement, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned attorneys.

Respectfully,

ANDRÉ DESJARDINS ET AL

By:

Guy J. Houle (Reg. No. 24,971) Attorney or Agent of Record Ogilvy Renault

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Enc.

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449A and B/PTO **Application Number** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE Filing Date DESJARDINS, André **First Named Inventor** STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Group Art Unit (use as many sheets as necessary) **Examiner Name**

Attorney Docket Number

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				U.S. PATENT DOCUM	IENTS		
xaminer Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document Kind Code ² Number (if known)		Name of Patentee or Applicant Of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		4,477,929		Mattsson	Oct. 23, 1984		
		4,539,715		Clement	Sept. 10, 1985		
		5,956,776		Chartrand	Sept. 28, 1999		
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents, ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is

PTO/SB/08A/B (10-96)
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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			PLICANT	First Named Inventor	DESJARDINS, André	
"				Group Art Unit		
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Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	11016-27us GH/ik	

	OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²				

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